Capacity of existing wagon manufacturers

2270. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the existing wagon manufacturers in the country and what is their respective capacity;

(b) what are the details of the orders placed by Government on each of the wagon manufacturers during the last three years, year-wise and how does it match with their capacity; and

(c) what is the period likely to be taken by them to complete the orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) A statement indicating

(i) Licensed Capacity

(ii) Planned Off-take &

(iii) Actual Production

by various wagon building units in the last three years is attached. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 129]

(c) The slippage in manufacture of the wagon builders during the year is not carried forward but fresh allocations are made each year

Losses due to Underweighing of Export Shipments

2271. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of gross underweighing and wrong declarations of weight of export shipments at the Indira Gandhi International Airport causing substantial annual loss to the Exchequer have been detected recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the annual estimated loss suffered by Government as a result thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether any racket in such malpractices has been unearthed; if so, what action has bees taken|proposed to be taken by Government against the persons involved in the racket; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government to streamline the system to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) On the basis of sample checks of export consignments done by IAAI during the year 1988 at IGI Airport, certain instances of underweghing involving a revenue loss of Rs. 5,876/- to IAAI have come to notice. Compared to the total Cargo-handling revenue of IAAI, the incidence of loss on this account is negligible.

(c) The shippers and Customs clearing Agents involved in detected cases have been identified and the airlines concerned have been advised to take necessary action. Penal charges were also levied on erring exporters.

(d) The arrangements for weighing of Cargo have been strengthened and penal charges have been introduced for weight variations beyond acceptable limits.

Imports of Centre Buffer Couplers and Draft Gears

2272 SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 120 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd February, 1989 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for preferring imports of High Tensile couplers and draft gears, ignoring the domestic capability; and

(b) what is the estimated cost of the imports, in foreign exchange involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) High Tensile couplers and draft gears are being imported in order to upgrade the

technology and as a part of the modernisation plan. Also, the shelf type high tensile couplers being imported are not available indigenously.

(b) The FOB cost of 5100 couplers and draft gears including transfer of technology is Us dollar 9.95 million.

Modernisation of Calcutta Airport

2273. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of increase in the air traffic at Calcutta airport since the last three years;

(b) whether, with the increase in the air traffic at Calcutta airport, Government have examined the adequacy or otherwise of the landing facilities, its maintenance etc., to avoid mid-air collission and crash landings; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government to remove the deficiencies and to accelerate the pace of modernisation of the airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) The total passenger traffic at Calcutta Airport has increased by about 28.3 per cent during 1987-88 in relation to 1984-85.

(b) and (c) Adequate facilities are available at Calcutta Airport to ensure safety of aircraft operations. Plans for upgradation of facilities to meet future demands of traffic have also been drawn up by the National Airports Authority.

Recognition to Priyadarshini Institute

2274. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recognised the Priyadarshini Institute for Computer aided knowledge for conducting courses related to computer programme in the department of Technical Education;

(b) whether the said programme is being pursued at the Centre or in the States; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the computer programme conducted so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the information furnished by the Institute, it is conducting its programme in Delhi only.

(c) Does not arise.

Fine on Boeing Company due to poor quality

2275. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 17th February, 1989 under the caption 'Boeing fined 14 times in 4 years', to the effect that Boeing Company has been fined 14 times for a total of 2,45,000 during the last year by federal Aviation Administration because of quality control problems;

(b) whether Boeing planes with Indian Airlines and Air India have also been found to be defective; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND